

## **Memorandum**

To: Vermont Standards Board for Professional Educators  
From: Robert A Gross, Assistant Director of Educator Quality  
Date: April 24, 2009  
Re: Treatment of School Counselor's for the Interstate Agreement

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In the past the EQT team has been classifying School Counselors as "Support Professional" under the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) interstate agreement. Under Vermont Standards Board regulations we consider school counselors as teachers for the purpose of our 16 principles and other licensing requirements. Most of the approved programs for school counselors throughout the country have similar requirements as ours and align similar to our teacher education programs.

In investigating the inclusion of other support professional positions in our agreement it became clear that there are numerous differences for nurses, social workers, psychologists and SLPs. This would make it extremely difficult to sign on to the "Support Professional" portion of the agreement because if you agree to accept a state then you can not limit the types of support professionals that you accept.

We would like to include school counselors in the teacher portion of the agreement if this is allowed by NASDTEC. With the boards permission I would like to proceed to explore this possibility.